30th July 1953]

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA:—" (a) In the year 1951–52, 68 Cottage Industrial Co-operative Societies received subsidies totalling Rs. 37,705. During 1952–53, 40 such societies were granted a total subsidy of rupees 22,483.

" (b) Six Societies are mostly managed by Harijans. During last year, i.e., 1952–53, an amount of Rs. 1,896 was granted as subsidy to them."

Recruitment of School Assistants by the Public Service Commission.

* 1292 Q.—SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Public Service Commission invited applications for recruitment as School Assistants in Government Schools in March 1951, and if so, how many applicants offered themselves for the said posts; and

(b) how many were interviewed and how many of them were selected and appointed?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" (a) Yes. 333 (three hundred and thirty-three).

" (b) The recruitment was postponed."

Lignite Mines at Neyveli, South Arcot.

* 1293 Q.—SRI A. RATHINAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total expenditure so far met by the State Government to the quarrying project at the Neyveli Lignite mines at South Arcot district; and

(b) what is the expenditure met by the Government in the pilot project for open cut operation in an open area 500 × 500?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" (a) The total approximate expenditure met by the State Government up to April 1953 on the Quarrying Project is Rs. 33,47,245.

" (b) The expenditure met up to 10th May 1953 on the pilot project for open cut operation is Rs. 6,37,468."

* 1294 Q.—SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH:—" I do not want to put the question, Sir."

September examinations for pupil teachers.

* 1295 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government propose to conduct September Examinations for the pupil teachers failing in March Examinations in the teachers' training institutions?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"Proposals have been called for from the Director of Public Instruction."

Alleged beating of Sri P. Lakshmi Reddi in Nellore Police lock-up.

* 1296 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether one Sri Ponnamalle Lakshmi Reddy, an agricultural labourer of Indukurpet, Nellore taluk, was arrested on 23rd October 1952 and taken to and severely beaten in the Nellore Police lock-up resulting in fracture of chest bones;

(*b*) whether the District Superintendent of Police, Nellore and the Medical Officer, Nellore investigated the case of beating administered by the Police when the person referred to in (*a*) was in custody; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken (1) to punish the Policemen concerned, (2) to prevent a recurrence of man-handling of persons in Police lock-up; and (3) to provide compensation to the person who is rendered a cripple for life?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"(*a*) *to* (*c*) Sri P. Lakshmi Reddy was found in a drunken state on 23rd October 1952 near the Municipal park, Nellore, and was therefore arrested. He was kept in the Police lock-up that night.

"He was convicted on the charge of drunkenness, and was sent to the special sub-jail, Nellore on 25th October 1952. He then complained to the Superintendent of the sub-jail that he had been beaten by the Police. The complaint was referred to the District Superintendent of Police, Nellore, The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nellore, conducted a preliminary enquiry into the complaint. The Resident Medical Officer, Nellore, who visited the sub-jail, examined P. Lakshmi Reddi and sent him to the hospital for X-ray examination. The X-ray examination showed that P. Lakshmi Reddy had been badly assaulted resulting in fracture of one of the smaller ribs. A *prima facie* case of torture having been made out the Sub-divisional Magistrate conducted an enquiry under Police Standing Orders.

"The inquiry showed that the injury to the rib was caused while Sri Lakshmi Reddy was in Police custody while the other minor injuries could have been caused to Lakshmi Reddy when he fell down while in a drunken state. The evidence available was insufficient to institute criminal proceedings but the Government took a serious view of it and have ordered that all the persons responsible should be proceeded against departmentally. The matter is pending.

"Quite a number of cases specially from the Andhra district having come to notice wherein there is room for thinking that